

## OAKVILLE BEAVER

### Miss Latina Oakville has eyes on Canadian crown

*By Hiba Kesebi, Special to the Beaver*

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#### MEET MISS LATINA OAKVILLE:

Miss Latina Oakville, Lorena Perez, will be competing in the upcoming Miss Latina Canada pageant.

Lorena Perez hopes to make Venezuela and Oakville proud, Aug. 24.

The George Brown, Fashion Techniques and Design student, was recently named Miss Latina Oakville, qualifying her for the Miss Latina Canada pageant.

"I was really happy when I found out," said Perez, a Holy Trinity Catholic School graduate. "I heard about it from my boyfriend's friend and I decided to apply."

Perez had to fill an online application and send a picture of herself. She also had an interview with pageant organizers, who wanted to get to know her personality.

According to Perez, there is only one requirement for the pageant; contestants must be of Latin descent. Each contestant must have at least one grandparent from Latin origin.

Perez's roots tie back to Venezuela.

She said Venezuela has always been big in pageants, and she is proud to not only represent the Latin country, but also the Oakville community as whole.

"I always watched Miss Universe and Miss Venezuela, but now that I'm doing a pageant, it's a very different experience. I'm really enjoying it."

Miss Latina Canada will receive a \$15, 000 price package which includes: official bridal satin sash, official crown, professional photo shoots, autograph cards, online promotion through specified websites, appearances throughout Canada, custom designed evening gown, private modeling and pageant coaching, modeling agency representation, personal management and an all expenses paid trip to the International Ms. Latina World Pageant.

Perez however, is asking the Oakville community for help. She is currently asking for sponsors that can assist her with the gown for the final coronation night.

To assist Lorena, contact her at [lorena.perez89@hotmail.com](mailto:lorena.perez89@hotmail.com). To vote for her, visit the Miss Latina website, <http://www.misslatinacanada.com/contest09.html> and Vote Now! It costs \$1 to vote.